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December 15, 2005

Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary
Department of Telecommunications and Energy
One South Station, 2nd floor
Boston, MA 02202

Re: Bay State Gas Company, D.T.E. 05-27

Dear Ms. Cottrell:

Enclosed please find the Motion of Bay State Gas Company to Extend the Judicial Appeal Period.

Very truly yours,

Robert L. Dewees, Jr.

RLD/tlm
Enclosure

cc: Caroline O'Brien Bulger, Esq., Hearing Officer
A. John Sullivan (7 copies)
Andreas Thanos, Assistant Director, Gas Division
Alexander Cochis, Assistant Attorney General (4 copies)
Paul R. Osborne, Assistant Director, Rates & Revenue Requirements Division
Andrew O. Kaplan, General Counsel
Service List

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
DEPARTMENT OF TELECOMMUNICATIONS AND ENERGY**

BAY STATE GAS COMPANY

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D.T.E. 05-27

**MOTION OF BAY STATE GAS COMPANY
TO EXTEND THE JUDICIAL APPEAL PERIOD**

Pursuant to 220 C.M.R. § 1.11(11), Bay State Gas Company (“Bay State” or the “Company”) requests that the Department of Telecommunications and Energy (the “Department”) extend the judicial appeal period to twenty (20) days after the Department’s final ruling or decision on the Company’s Motion for Reconsideration and any other motions for reconsideration, recalculation or clarification filed in this proceeding. There is good cause for granting Bay State’s Motion as set forth below:

1. On November 30, 2005, the Department issued its Order in this proceeding establishing new rates for the Company. On December 12, 2005, the Company filed an interim compliance filing pursuant to the Order. On December 13, 2005, the Company filed a Motion for Reconsideration with respect to certain portions of the Order.

2. According to G.L. c. 5, § 25, an appeal of the Department’s Order must be filed within twenty days of the date of service of the Order or within such further time as the Commission may allow upon a request filed prior to the expiration of the twenty-day period.

3. In light of the extensive nature of the Company’s interim compliance filing and the number of issues raised in the Company’s Motion for Reconsideration, it would appear unlikely that the Department could act on all of these matters within twenty days from the date of the

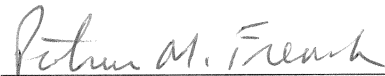
Order. Furthermore, other parties may file motions for reconsideration or recalculation within the twenty-day period. Granting the Company's Motion would avoid the necessity of filing a premature appeal before all parties know the final outcome of the Department's action on the Company's Motion. Granting Bay State's Motion simply preserves the parties' rights to appeal until after the Department rules on the Motion and other motions that may be filed.

WHEREFORE, for the reasons set forth above, Bay State requests that the Department grant an extension of the judicial appeal period to twenty (20) days after a final Department order or ruling on Bay State's Motion for Reconsideration and other similar motions filed in this proceeding.

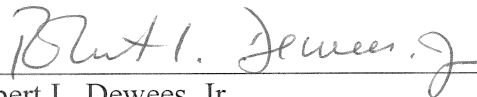
Respectfully submitted,

BAY STATE GAS COMPANY

By its Attorneys,



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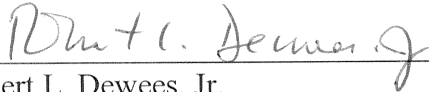
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Dated: December 15, 2005

CERTIFICATION

I certify that I served today a copy of the attached Motion of Bay State Gas Company to Extend the Judicial Appeal Period by hand delivery, first class mail postage prepaid or electronically on the Department of Telecommunications and Energy and all parties on the service list on file with the Secretary of the Department of Telecommunications and Energy for this proceeding.

Dated at Boston, Massachusetts this 15th day of December, 2005



Robert L. Dewees, Jr.